

Bea's Dental Discovery: Fact-File

Learning objective: To identify and describe the functions of different types of human teeth in the digestive system.

Help Bea the honeybee learn about human biology! Use your science textbook or class notes to complete this fact-file. Write clearly and ensure you explain the function of each tooth type accurately.

Word bank: incisors · canines · molars · premolars · digestive system · function · bite · grind · tear · enamel

1. Incisors: Describe the shape of these teeth and explain their specific function when you first take a bite of food. (2 marks)

2. Canines: Explain why these teeth are shaped differently to incisors and what job they perform during eating. (2 marks)

3. Molars and Premolars: Describe the surface of these teeth and explain how this helps with the process of digestion. (3 marks)

4. The Digestive Journey: Why is it important that we chew our food thoroughly before it travels down the oesophagus? (2 marks)

5. Dental Care: Based on what you have learned, suggest two ways a person can protect their enamel from decay. (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Research a herbivore (like an elephant) and a carnivore (like a lion). Write a short paragraph explaining how their teeth differ from human teeth to suit their specific diets.